

Message Text

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ORIGIN PA-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-10 ISO-00 SAJ-01 PM-03 ACDA-10

USIA-15 PRS-01 ERDA-07 AF-06 ARA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

H-02 INR-07 L-02 NASA-02 NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02

SP-02 OES-05 SS-15 /140 R

DRAFTED BY PA/M:HSFOSTER/PDENNIS:LM

APPROVED BY PA/M:HSFOSTER

DESIRED DISTRIBUTION

S/J, EUR, PM, ACDA, PA, USIA

----- 020663

P R 221858Z MAY 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SALT TWO GENEVA PRIORITY

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AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

UNCLAS STATE 119833

SALT/DISTO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: US, PINT, PARM, XG

SUBJECT: AMERICAN PRESS COVERAGE

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GENEVA FOR CSCE AND NPT REVIEW

INFO FOR PAOS

1. HIGHLIGHTS. TUESDAY PAPERS FEATURED THAIS ACCEPT

U.S. REGRETS; WEDNESDAY NYTIMES FRONTPAGE HOUSE
REJECTS 70,000 TROOPS ABROAD REDUCTION, 311 TO 95; ALSO
KISSINGER GROMYKO COOPERATE IN PLANNING GENEVA MIDEAST
PARLEY. THURSDAY BALTSUN FRONTPAGES ARMS CURB COMPROMISE
TIED TO SOVIET GOODWILL. COMMENT SCATTERED.

1A. TUESDAY PAPERS INSIDE REPORTED KISSINGER CAUTIONS
GROMYKO ON POST-INDOCHINA MOVES; WASHPOST REPORTED
SOVIETS HAVE EASED SOME U.S. SUSPICIONS ABOUT ARMS
VIOLATIONS; ALSO SOVIET EMBASSY NEARS CLEARANCE; PLUS
SENATE VOTES TO END BAN ON ARMS AID TO TURKEY, 41 TO 40.
WASHSTAR REPORTED ARMS CRITICS FARING POORLY IN HOUSE
EFFORTS TO CUT BUDGET.

1B. WEDNESDAY PAPERS REPORTED HOUSE VOTES 32 BILLION
FOR WEAPONS; ALSO SENATE REPORT OPPOSES TROOP SHIFT.

WASHPOST REPORTED NEW SNAGS ON SOVIET EMBASSY; ROCKET
POWER FAILURE CAUSES TWO U.S. MILITARY SATELLITES TO MISS
PROPER ORBIT; ALSO FRANCE CONFIRMS IT WILL CONDUCT
UNDERGROUND PACIFIC TESTS.

1C. THURSDAY PAPERS INSIDE REPORT KISSINGER IN BERLIN
AFFIRMS U.S. DEFENSE OF ALLIES; ALSO REPORT GISCARD IS
COOL TO AREA-DEFENSE PARLEYS BUT WILL SEE FORD PRIVATELY
IN BRUSSELS. PAPERS REPORT KENNEDY ASKS TESTING HALT.

2. KENNEDY. THURSDAY WASHPOST ROUNDUP SQUIB SAYS SEN.
KENNEDY IN GENEVA CALLED ON U.S. AND SOVIET UNION TO
PRESS FOR A TREATY BANNING ALL NUCLEAR WEAPONS TESTS
AND PEACEFUL NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS.

2A. THURSDAY NYTIMES HAS GENEVA SPECIAL SAYING
KENNEDY WISHES TO HALT ALL NUCLEAR WEAPONS TESTING
TO GIVE OTHER NATIONS A REAL INCENTIVE FOR RENOUNCING
THE DEVELOPMENT OF NUCLEAR ARMS, ALSO URGING THE
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SUPERPOWERS TO BEGIN REAL REDUCTIONS IN THEIR NUCLEAR
ARSENALS IN HIS ADDRESS TO 65-NATION NPT REVIEW CONFERENCE
SPECIAL ADDS THAT MANY OF THE NON-NUCLEAR NATIONS THERE
HAVE ALSO URGED SUCH ACTION ON MOSCOW AND WASHINGTON
AS THE MOST EFFECTIVE STEP TO GET MORE COUNTRIES TO
ACCEPT THE TREATY. SPECIAL REPEATS NPT PROVISIONS
BY WHICH NON-NUCLEAR NATIONS RENOUNCE NUCLEAR ARMS AND
NUCLEAR POWERS PLEDGE NOT TO ASSIST OTHERS IN OBTAINING
NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

3. SALT. WASHPOST GETTLER LOCAL REPORTED THAT AMERICAN
OFFICIALS CLOSE TO SALT CLAIM THE RUSSIANS HAVE EASED
SOME U.S. SUSPICIONS THAT THEY MAY HAVE BEEN VIOLATING
OR TAKING ADVANTAGE OF EARLIER JOINT AGREEMENTS ON

LIMITING NUCLEAR WEAPONS, CITING WORK OF CONSULTATIVE MISSION IN SOME DETAIL: EVIDENCE THAT NEW GROUND HOLES ACTUALLY ARE FOR NEW COMMAND POSTS, NOT MISSILES; SOVIET AGREEMENT NOT TO OPERATE THEIR NEW MOBILE RADAR DURING TESTS OF MISSILES. GETLER ADDS KISSINGER MAY AGREE TO ALLOW RUSSIANS TO DEPLOY PERHAPS 100 BIG MISSILES AND COUNT THEM AS SINGLE WARHEADS IF THE RUSSIANS AGREE THEY WILL NOT FIELD ANY NEWER MISSILES THAT HAVE BOTH A SINGLE-WARHEAD AND MULTIPLE-WARHEAD CAPABILITY. THIS ARRANGEMENT, SAID GETLER, IS VIEWED AS ALMOST CERTAIN TO DRAW CRITICISM FROM CAPITOL HILL, INCLUDING JACKSON.

3A. THURSDAY BALTSUN TREWHITT WASHINGTON REPORTS INFORMED OFFICIALS OUTLINED YESTERDAY A POSSIBLE

COMPROMISE ROUTE AROUND ONE OF THE BARRIERS TO A NEW ARMS-CONTROL AGREEMENT WITH SOVIET UNION THIS YEAR, SUGGESTING THAT THE U.S. MIGHT ASSUME SOVIET GOODWILL IN THE DEPLOYMENT OF A LIMITED NUMBER OF BIG ROCKETS WITH SINGLE INSTEAD OF SEVERAL NUCLEAR WARHEADS. BUT, SAYS TREWHITT, THERE STILL IS NO CERTAINTY SOVIET UNION WILL ACCEPT OTHER FUNDAMENTAL U.S. ASSUMPTIONS ABOUT ROCKET DEPLOYMENT; ALSO DIFFERENCES BETWEEN SOVIET AND U.S. NEGOTIATORS ARE AS GREAT AS EVER ON ISSUES DEALING WITH BOMBERS AND SOME SPECIAL TYPES OF MISSILES. ACCORDING TREWHITT, THESE DIFFERENCES ARE GREAT ENOUGH UNCLASSIFIED

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TO FORCE POSTPONEMENT OF NEXT PHASE OF SALT FROM JUNE 2 TILL TWO OR THREE WEEKS LATER AT LEAST, AND FAILURE TO AGREE ON SALT TWO COULD FORCE CANCELLATION OF BREZHNEV'S SUMMIT HERE THIS YEAR. TREWHITT SAYS U.S. SPECIALISTS FEEL THAT COMPROMISE ON HOW TO COUNT SS-18 MISSILES COULD RISK ACCEPTANCE OF SOVIET FIGURES BECAUSE NUMBER OF SS-18S WILL BE ONLY SMALL PART OF TOTAL SOVIET STRATEGIC NUCLEAR FORCE, BUT THERE IS NO INDICATION U.S. WILL ABANDON ITS ASSUMPTION THAT ALL SS-17S AND SS-19S WILL BE MIRVED, YET SOVIET NEGOTIATORS STILL REFUSE TO ACCEPT ANY SUCH GENERAL ASSUMPTION, ALSO DISAGREE ON BACKFIRE AND CRUISE MISSILE.

4. KISSINGER. TUESDAY WASHSTAR VIENNA AP REPORTED KISSINGER WARNED GROMYKO AGAINST RUSSIAN ATTEMPTS TO EXPLOIT AMERICAN FAILURES IN INDOCHINA BY CHALLENGING U.S. COMMITMENTS ELSEWHERE, CALLING GROMYKO'S ATTENTION TO HIS ST. LOUIS SPEECH WARNING MOSCOW AGAINST ADVENTURISM STEMMING FROM A MISTAKEN BELIEF IN AMERICAN WEAKNESS. AP SAID THE TWO LEADERS GOT TO SALT TOPIC AT END OF SESSION, KISSINGER ASKING TO HEAR GROMYKO'S THINKING ABOUT A COMPROMISE ON VERIFICATION.

4A. TUESDAY WASHPOST MARDER VIENNA ADDED U.S. SPOKESMAN SAID WESTERN ALLIES STILL CONSIDER IT PREMATURE TO SET A FINAL DATE FOR CSCE SUMMIT, SO THE KISSINGER GROMYKO MEETING INDICATED, SAYS MARDER, THERE WILL BE CONTINUAL MANEUVERING AND BARGAINING THROUGHOUT THIS SUMMER OVER COMPETING PRIORITIES ON THE WASHINGTON-MOSCOW AGENDA.

4B. WEDNESDAY NYTIMES GELB BONN REPORTED KISSINGER GROMYKO AGREED TO MEET AGAIN IN EUROPE IN JULY TO DISCUSS MIDEAST AND SALT. WASHPOST MARDER ADDED THAT WHEN GROMYKO IN VIENNA WAS ASKED BY NEWSMEN IF ANY COMPROMISE HAD BEEN REACHED ON THE DIFFICULT PROBLEM OF VERIFICATION, GROMYKO REPLIED: IT IS A SMALL DETAIL.

4C. THURSDAY NYTIMES GELB BERLIN REPORTS KISSINGER ADDRESSED BERLIN'S HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO CONFIRM UNCLASSIFIED

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THE PAST AND REPLEDGE U.S. TO THE CITY'S FUTURE, SAYING THE SECURITY OF WEST BERLIN REMAINS A VITAL INTEREST OF THE UNITED STATES AND ADDING THAT BERLIN IS ENJOYING GREATER SECURITY THAN AT ANY TIME IN THE LAST 30 YEARS, AND THAT WASHINGTON WILL NEVER SEEK PEACE BY ABANDONING PRINCIPLES OR SACRIFICING FRIENDS. GELB QUOTES HIGH OFFICIALS AS SAYING KISSINGER IS TAKING SPECIAL CARE THAT THE SOVIET POSITION CALLING FOR A REDUCTION OF WEST GERMAN FORCES IN THE EARLY STAGES OF ANY MUTUAL FORCE REDUCTION AGREEMENT DOESN'T LEAD TO BONN'S ISOLATION.

4D. THURSDAY WASHPOST MARDER ANKARA REPORTS KISSINGER ASSURED BOTH WEST BERLIN AND TURKEY THAT COMMUNIST VICTORIES IN INDOCHINA CANNOT WEAKEN AMERICAN RESOLVE FOR THE DEFENSE OF WESTERN EUROPE, ALSO SAYING IN ANKARA U.S. WILL STAND BY ITS FRIENDS IN A FORCEFUL AND UNDERSTANDING MANNER.

5. COMMENT. MAY 9 OAKLAND TRIBUNE EDITORIAL SAID ABSENCE OF FRANCE, CHINA AND INDIA CREATES "GAPING HOLE" IN MEMBERSHIP OF 51 NATION CONFERENCE REVIEWING THE NPT AND THAT AIMS OF TREATY CANNOT BE REALIZED WITHOUT PARTICIPATION OF ALL NUCLEAR POWERS.

5A. MAY 9 LOS ANGELES TIMES EDITORIAL SUMMARIZED GLOOMY PROSPECTS FOR NPT REVIEW CONFERENCE TO REACH AGREEMENT ON NEW MEASURES TO PREVENT FURTHER SPREAD OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS, AND SCORED U.S. AND RUSSIA FOR POOR EXAMPLE IN FAILURE TO NEGOTIATE REDUCTIONS IN NUCLEAR ARSENALS, WARNING THAT U.S. COMMITMENTS TO NON-NUCLEAR ALLIES MUST BE UPHELD IF THESE NATIONS ARE TO BE DETERRED FROM DEVELOPING THEIR OWN NUCLEAR CAPABILITIES.

5B. MAY 13 WASHPOST MARQUIS CHILDS COLUMN DECRIED CONTINUANCE OF ARMS RACE DETAILING PENTAGON'S PUSH FOR SUPER-ACCURATE CRUISE MISSILES AND WARNING THAT THIS NEW CLASS OF WEAPONS WILL NOT ONLY APPEAL TO NEAR-NUCLEAR POWERS AS A BARGAIN-PRICED KILLER WEAPON, BUT WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE TO VERIFY ON SUBMARINES, MAKING MOCKERY OF TENTATIVE SALT II AGREEMENT AND SETTING OFF NEW SPURTS IN ARMS RACE.
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5C. MAY 19 WALL STREET JOURNAL EDITORIAL SAID SALT IS DEADLOCKED DUE TO SOVIET INTRANSIGENCE ON TECHNICAL

ISSUES SUCH AS BOMBER COUNTS AND MIRV CAPABILITIES AND WARNED THAT IMPORTANCE OF TECHNICAL ISSUES IS UNDERLINED BY GROWING CONCERN OVER POSSIBLE SOVIET VIOLATIONS OF SALT I AND ACCELERATING PACE OF RUSSIAN STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT VERSUS DECLINING U.S. DEVELOPMENT. JOURNAL EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT SELF-IMPOSED DEADLINE ON NEGOTIATIONS WILL WEIGH MORE HEAVILY ON U.S. THAN ON RUSSIANS AND HANDICAP U.S. POSITION UNLESS AMERICAN LEADERS ARE WILLING TO COME HOME WITHOUT AN AGREEMENT AND ADMIT INABILITY TO FORCE SOVIETS TO COOPERATE.

5D. THURSDAY WASHPOST HAD CHALMERS ROBERTS PIECE ON U.S. ROLE IN WORLD SAYING THAT WITH CURRENT ROUND OF SALT TALKS DEADLOCKED ON TECHNICAL ISSUES, NPT REVIEW CONFERENCE FACING CHALLENGE OF FINDING WAYS TO HALT SPREAD OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS, MBFR TALKS FAILING TO ACHIEVE MEANINGFUL TROOP REDUCTIONS SO FAR, AND WITH CSCE FAILING TO WIN SUBSTANTIVE CONCESSIONS FROM RUSSIANS, U.S. SHOULD CONTINUE HIGH LEVEL OF ARMAMENTS AND INSIST ON LINKING WITHDRAWAL OF U.S. TROOPS FROM EUROPE TO THE ACHIEVEMENT OF MUTUALLY REDUCED FORCES THERE. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 26 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, PRESS SUMMARIES, SALT (ARMS CONTROL)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE119833
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: PA/M:HSFOSTER/PDENNIS:LM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D750180-0382
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t197505103/baaaaklw.tel
Line Count: 257
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN PA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: SmithRJ
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 JUL 2003 by SilvaL0>; APPROVED <30 JAN 2004 by SmithRJ>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 971014
Subject: n/a
TAGS: PARM, PINT, US, XG
To: SALT TWO GENEVA
MBFR VIENNA
GENEVA INFO LONDON
PARIS
ROME
BONN

NATO
USBERLIN
MOSCOW
TOKYO
CANBERRA
WELLINGTON

Type: TE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006